

HOUSE RESOLUTION 182

By McCord

A RESOLUTION to create a special House committee to study reducing the amount of waste disposed of in landfills and related issues.

WHEREAS, recycling, composting, reusing, and reducing waste source would achieve a substantial reduction in the amount of solid waste disposed of in landfills in Tennessee, thus preserving limited capacity of such landfills and reducing the need for new facilities; and

WHEREAS, waste that is recycled or composted is also waste that does not become litter, fouling our highways and beautiful landscapes; and

WHEREAS, more citizens would engage in reducing waste that ends up in landfills if there were readily available means to divert such waste to more productive uses; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is uniquely posed to facilitate ways to reduce Tennessee's waste stream, to encourage permanent habits of prudence with products used and then disposed of, and to reduce the abysmal amount of litter tarnishing our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that there is hereby created a special House committee to study ways and means to reduce the amount of waste, including solid waste and nuclear waste, disposed of in landfills in Tennessee and the efficacy of recycling, composting, and reusing and waste source reduction programs and initiatives in achieving such reduction. The committee shall also study and make recommendations to ensure that legislation pertaining to landfills, solid waste, and related issues is properly and consistently referred to the appropriate House standing committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special House committee shall consist of three (3) members of the House Conservation and Environment Committee and three (3) members of the House State and Local Government Committee, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special House committee who are duly elected members of the House of Representatives shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special House committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special House committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special House committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One Hundred Sixth General Assembly no later than February 1, 2010, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.